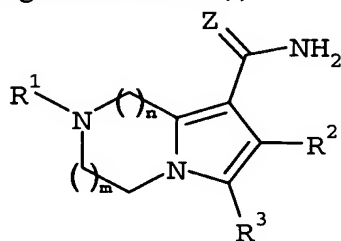


CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A compound of general formula (I):



(I)

optionally further substituted in the saturated ring by one or more alkyl substituents,  
in which:

$R^1$  represents hydrogen,  $R^4$ ,  $-C(=Y)-NHR^4$ ,  $-SO_2NHR^4$ ,  $-C(=Z^1)-R^4$ ,  $-SO_2-R^4$  or  $-C(=Z^1)-OR^4$ ;

$R^2$  represents hydrogen, cyano, halogen or  $-C\equiv C-R^5$ ;

$R^3$  represents hydrogen, acyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkyl, aroyl, aryl, aryloxycarbonyl, carboxy, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaroyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl or  $-C(=O)-NY^1Y^2$ ;

$R^4$  represents alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl or heterocycloalkyl each optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from aryl, cycloalkenyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl,  $-C(=O)-OR^8$ ,  $-C(=O)-R^9$ ,  $-C(=O)-NY^3Y^4$ ,  $-NY^1Y^2$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-OR^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-R^9$  or  $-Z^2R^8$ ; or  $R^4$  represents aryl or heteroaryl each optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from alkylenedioxy, alkenyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyl, aryl, cyano, halo, hydroxy, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, nitro,  $R^7$ ,  $-C(=O)-NY^3Y^4$ ,  $-C(=O)-OR^8$ ,  $-C(=O)-R^{11}$ ,  $-NY^3Y^4$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-NY^5Y^6$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-OR^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-NY^5Y^6$ ,  $-SO_2-NY^3Y^4$  and  $-Z^2R^{12}$ ;

$R^5$  represents hydrogen or alkyl;

$R^6$  represents alkyl, acyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfonyl, aryl, arylsulfonyl, aroyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylsulfonyl, heteroaroyl and heterocycloalkyl;

$R^7$  represents alkyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkylalkyl each optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from aryl, cycloalkyl, cyano, halo, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, hydroxy,  $-CHO$  (or a 5-, 6- or 7-membered cyclic acetal derivative

thereof),  $-C(=O)-NY^1Y^2$ ,  $-C(=O)-OR^8$ ,  $-NY^3Y^4$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-NY^3Y^4$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-NY^3Y^4$  and  $-OR^9$ ;

$R^8$  represents hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl;

5  $R^9$  represents alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl or heterocycloalkylalkyl;

$R^{10}$  represents hydrogen or lower alkyl;

$R^{11}$  represents alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl or heterocycloalkylalkyl; or alkyl optionally substituted by  $-NY^1Y^2$ ;

10  $R^{12}$  represents aryl or heteroaryl; or alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl or heterocycloalkylalkyl each optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from aryl, cycloalkyl, cyano, halo, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, hydroxy,  $-CHO$  ( or a 5-, 6- or 7-membered cyclic acetal derivative thereof),  $-C(=O)-NY^1Y^2$ ,  $-C(=O)-OR^8$ ,  $-NY^1Y^2$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-C(=O)-NY^3Y^4$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^{10})-SO_2-NY^3Y^4$  and  $-OR^9$ ;

15 Y represents O, S or NCN;

$Y^1$  and  $Y^2$  are independently hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl; or the group  $-NY^1Y^2$  may form 5-7 membered ring which optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from O, S or  $NR^6$ ;

20  $Y^3$  and  $Y^4$  are independently hydrogen, alkenyl, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or alkyl optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from aryl, halo, heteroaryl, hydroxy,  $-C(=O)-NY^5Y^6$ ,  $-C(=O)-OR^8$ ,  $-NY^5Y^6$ ,  $-N(R^6)-C(=O)-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^6)-C(=O)-NY^5Y^6$ ,  $-N(R^6)-SO_2-R^9$ ,  $-N(R^6)-SO_2-NY^5Y^6$  and  $-OR^9$ ; or the group  $-NY^3Y^4$  may form a cyclic amine;

25  $Y^5$  and  $Y^6$  are independently hydrogen, alkenyl, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl; or the group  $-NY^5Y^6$  may form a cyclic amine;

Z represents O or S;

$Z^1$  represents O or S;

$Z^2$  represents O or  $S(O)_p$ ;

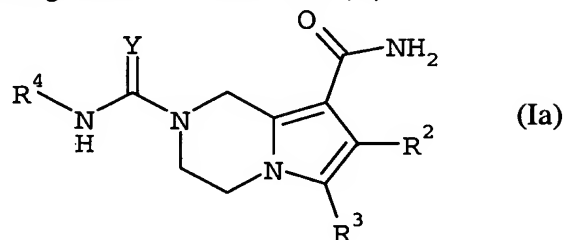
30 n is zero or an integer 1 or 2;

m is 1 or 2;

p is 1 or 2;

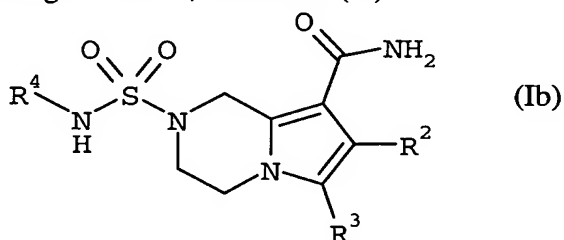
and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (I) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

2. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (Ia):



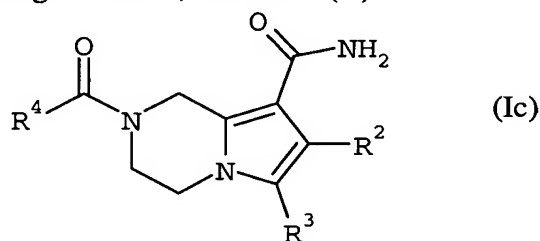
in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and Y are as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (Ia) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

3. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (Ib):



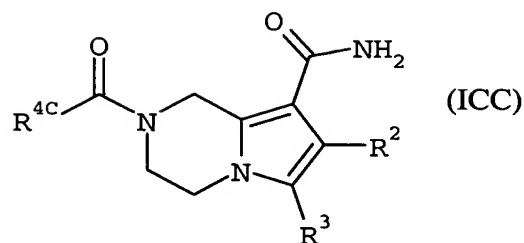
in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (Ib) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

4. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (Ic):



in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (Ic) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

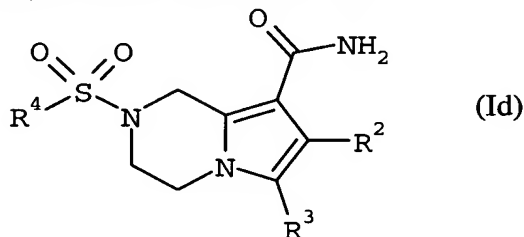
5. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (ICC):



in which R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4C</sup> represent NHR<sup>4</sup> with R<sup>4</sup> as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (Ic) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

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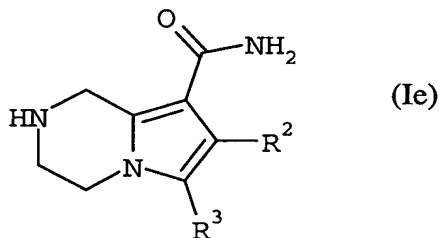
6. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (Id):-



in which R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (Id) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

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7. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (Ie):

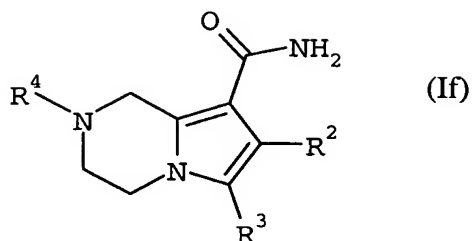


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in which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (Ie) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

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8. The compound according to claim 1, of formula (If):



in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as hereinbefore defined; and the corresponding N-oxides, and the prodrugs; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates of compounds of formula (If) and their N-oxides and their prodrugs.

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9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as active principle, at least one compound according to claim 1.

10. A method of treating a disease state capable of being modulated by the inhibition of JNK activity, comprising: administering to a patient in need thereof an effective dose of a compound according to claim 1.

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